



---

# JESSE KREMER

---

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 59<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For Further Information Contact:  
State Representative Jesse Kremer  
(R-Kewaskum) (608) 266-9175**

**September 22, 2016**

**Rep. Kremer Joins Governor Walker, Local Officials at Walgreens “Take Back” Event in Milwaukee**

**Madison, WI** – Today, Representative Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum) joined Governor Scott Walker and other state and local officials in Milwaukee to launch Walgreens’ new drug take-back program in Wisconsin.

As part of a nation-wide effort to help fight drug abuse, Walgreens is installing receptacles in 18 Wisconsin stores that will provide free, year-round disposal of prescriptions and controlled substances. Prescription medications often serve as gateway drugs for individuals who later become addicted to heroin and other substances. According to 2014 data from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, almost half of young heroin users surveyed reported having abused prescription opioids.

*“Many of my colleagues in the first responder community have had a front-row seat to the scourge that is our state’s drug epidemic,” said Rep. Kremer. “Early in my first term as a legislator, I met with Wisconsin’s Attorney General to discuss a program intended to get unused prescription drugs out of medicine cabinets. I found that while local law enforcement agencies collect these drugs, Wisconsin does not have an incinerator to destroy the drugs, requiring DOJ to transport the meds out of state to be destroyed.*

*“I’m encouraged to see the private sector stepping in to help shoulder this burden here in Wisconsin. Coupled with recent legislative initiatives and the Governor’s new Task Force on Opioid Abuse, this take-back program will help support our efforts to continue building a safer, healthier state.”*

###